

G-V-B-168

James D. Harvey Barn

Gorman

private

ca. 1907

The James D. Harvey Barn, the only barn of its kind in Garrett County, is a sixteen-sided, frame bank barn on a poured concrete foundation. Its basic configuration is a regular polygon with a diameter of thirty-five feet, each of the individual sides measuring eight feet wide. The building is forty-five feet tall, capped by a gable roof. Access to the ground level, which is furnished with several animal stalls, is through a set of double doors on the northeast elevation. A gable-roofed bank entrance projecting from the west elevation leads to the upper level hay lofts.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MAGI #1211155706

G

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

James D. Harvey Barn

AND/OR COMMON

J. D. Harvey Barn

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

MD Rt. 560, W side, 4 mi. S of White Church-Steyer Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Gorman

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Garrett County

**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO**PRESENT USE**☒ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Kenneth L. Steyer

Telephone #: (301) 334-3754

STREET &amp; NUMBER

MD Rt. 560

CITY, TOWN

Gorman

☒ VICINITY OF

Maryland

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Garrett County Courthouse

Liber #: 278

Folio #: 71

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Third and Alder Streets

CITY, TOWN

Oakland

STATE

Maryland 21550

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

G-V-B-168

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The James D. Harvey Barn is a sixteen-sided, frame bank barn on a poured concrete foundation. Its basic configuration is a regular polygon with a diameter of thirty-five feet, each of the individual sides measuring eight feet wide. The building is forty-five feet tall, capped by a gable roof. Access to the ground level, which is furnished with several animal stalls, is through a set of double doors on the northeast elevation. A gable-roofed bank entrance projecting from the west elevation leads to the upper level hay lofts.

The pair of batten doors to the lower level occupy one entire eight foot wall. Entering the building, the left-hand door is wide enough for animal passage and is without a sill. The right-hand door is narrower, and although its head is even with the left-hand door is narrower, and although its head is even with the left-hand door, its sill falls roughly one foot short of the ground. The interior of the ground level has a dirt floor and an array of stalls that were meant to accomodate five cows, four horses, and several sheep.<sup>1</sup> Light is provided by the six-pane windows that pierce each of the walls, excepting those walls that are occupied by the two entrances. A flight of stairs in the center of this room leads to the upper level.

The bank entrance that provides exterior access to the upper level is a frame, gable-roofed projection that occupies two of the eight foot walls. This projection is covered with vertical board and has two horizontally sliding doors. A small, square window lights each of the two sides and the triangular space above the doors.

The interior of the upper level was built as, and is still used as a hay loft. Except for the entrance and the center area, the whole floor space is reserved for the storage of hay bales. Above the floor are three additional partial lofts that resemble shelves. Extending only part way into the center of the room, the shelves occupy opposing walls and are each situated at a different height from the floor.

The gable roof of the barn is covered with corrugated metal and has exposed rafter ends. A square ventilator located at the midpoint of the north-south running ridgeline has been removed.

The frame of the building is made of circular sawn chestnut and hewn chestnut joists. Unpainted weatherboard with plain cornerboards at each angle sheathe the exterior. The weatherboard is in bad need of repair. At this date, several panels of corrugated metal cover some weak spots on the walls.

A frame, two story, gable-roofed dwelling, dating from the same period as the barn, is located northeast of the barn.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1907

BUILDER/ARCHITECT James D. Harvey

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The James D. Harvey Barn is significant as the only many-sided barn in Garrett County. Only two other many-sided buildings are known to exist in the county: the 1874, octagonal Mill Run Mercy Chapel (site # G-II-B-050), and a 1911, octagonal brooder house located on the Edward Barnard Homestead (site # G-IV-C-043).

J.D. Harvey built the foundation and frame of the barn with help from his family. The building was then completed by a barn raising in 1907. Trees on the property were harvested and cut on a steam tractor to supply the wood to build it.<sup>2</sup>

Mr. Harvey's reason for building the barn in a round form was that he thought round barns did not require long or strong timbers.<sup>3</sup>

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

<sup>1</sup>Interview with Kenneth Steyer, August 26, 1981, revealed that this was his grandfather J.D. Harvey's original plan.

<sup>2</sup>Interview with Kenneth Steyer, August 26, 1981.

<sup>3</sup>LeRoy Schultz, Associate Professor, West Virginia University. Interview with J.D. Harvey, Jr. and Kenneth Steyer, July 29, 1976.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION****LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Valerie Cesna, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines

DATE

September 1981

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

(301) 269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

Chain of Title

G-V-B-168

James D. Harvey Barn

12 April 1967

liber 278, folio 71

Grantees: Kenneth L. Steyer and Barbara D. Steyer

Grantor: Arta L. Harvey, single

Consideration: \$10.00 "and other good and valueable consideration"

Acreage: 91½

Notes: 1 - 66½ acres

2 - part of the Israel Thompson Farm, 25 acres

11 February 1942

liber 126, folio 355

Grantee: Arta L. Harvey

Grantor: J. William Owens, Sheriff

Consideration: \$2,000.00

Acreage:

Notes: Resulting from the case of Arta L. Harvey vs. James D. Harvey  
(No. 1 Judicials March Term, 1942 of circuit Court of Garrett  
County), sheriff sold property to Arta L. Harvey at public sale.

1 - 66½ acres, from Thomas K. Harvey to J.D. Harvey 8 December 1905  
(50/521) libero, folio

2 - part of the Israel Thompson Farm from Charles S. Thompson to  
J. D. Harvey, 19 April 1910 (59/548) liber , folio

8 December 1905

liber 50, folio 521

Grantee: James D. Harvey, of Garrett County

Grantor: Thomas K. and Susan Harvey, of Garrett County

Consideration: \$665.00

Acreage: 66½

Notes: Coal and mineral rights reserved for Thomas K. Harvey.  
Adjoins N. B. Harvey property (Military Lot 482).

19 April 1910

liber 59, folio 548

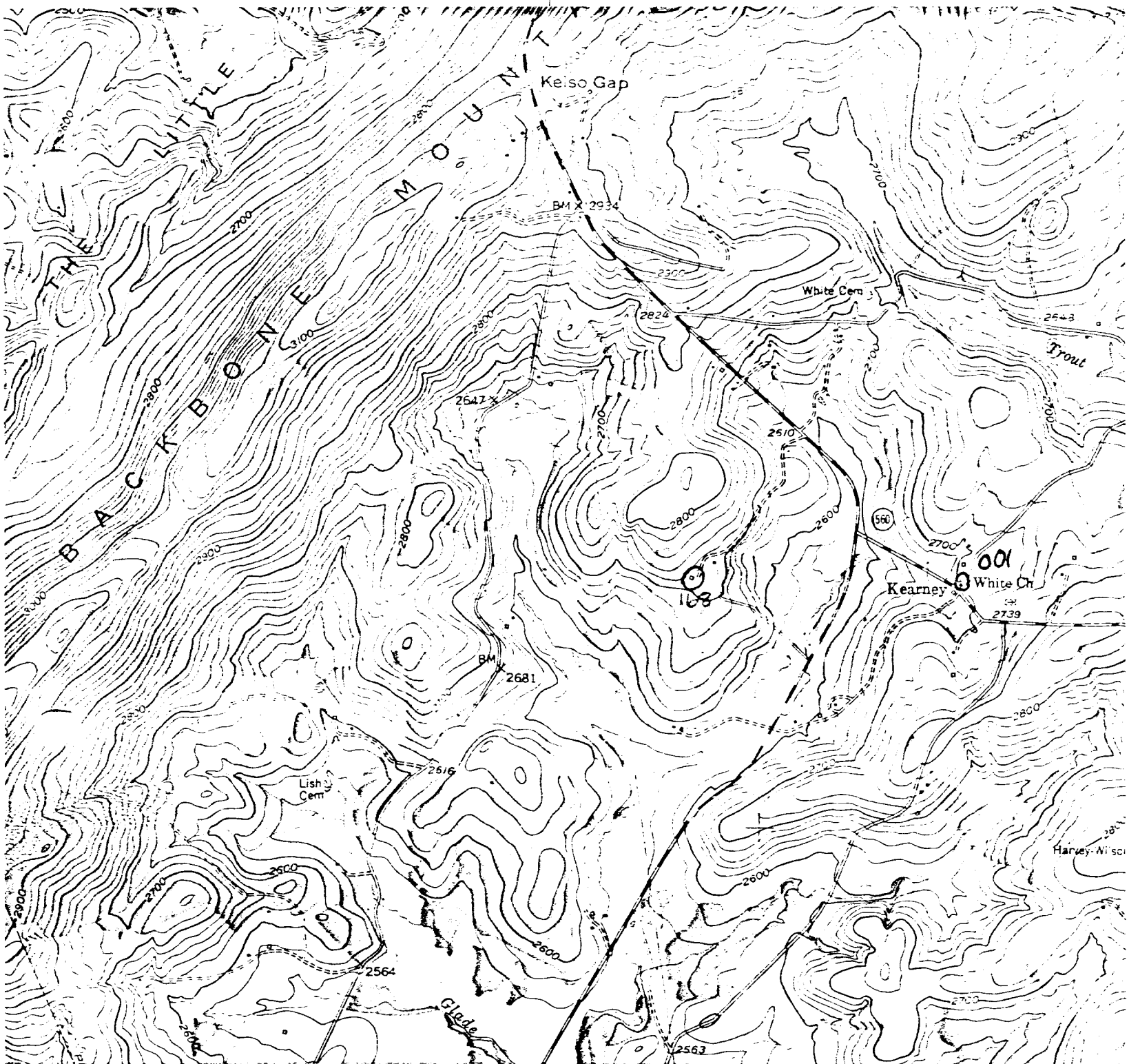
Grantee: James D. Harvey, of Garrett County

Grantor: Charles S. Thompson, of Garrett County

Consideration: \$243.00

Acreage: 25

Notes: part of Israel Thompson Farm



Gorman: MD;WV  
7.5 Minute Series  
Scale 1:24,000  
1949; photorevised 1974

G-V-B-168  
J.D. Harvey Barn  
MD Rt. 560, W side, 4 mile  
S of White Church-Steyer Road





G-V-B-168

James D. Harvey Barn

Garrett Co. MD 8/26/81

Valerie Cesna

Barn; E elevation



G-V-B-168

James D. Harvey Barn

Garrett Co., MD 8/26/81

Valerie Cesna

Barn; SW elevation